



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



November 2001

Location	Date	Time	Path	Path	Number of		Estimated		Character of Storm
		Local/ Standard	Length (Miles)	Width (Yards)	Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

MINNESOTA, Central and South Central

MNZ041>045-047>069-073>075 **Douglas - Todd - Morrison - Mille Lacs - Kanabec - Stevens - Pope - Stearns - Benton - Sherburne - Isanti - Chisago - Lac Qui Parle - Swift - Chippewa - Kandiyohi - Meeker - Wright - Hennepin - Anoka - Ramsey - Washington - Yellow Medicine - Renville - McLeod - Sibley - Carver - Scott - Redwood - Brown - Nicollet**

26	0400CST	0	0	Winter Storm
27	2000CST			

A strong low pressure system developed in Colorado on the 25th, reached eastern Iowa during the evening of the 26th, then trekked into eastern Wisconsin late on the 27th. It produced a wide swath of heavy snow across much of central Minnesota into West Central Wisconsin (see entry under Wisconsin). Storm total snowfall of 8 inches or more was common, with a large area exceeding 20 inches. Specifically, Willmar (Kandiyohi County) picked up 30.4 inches, New London (Kandiyohi County) saw 28.5 inches, Collegeville (Stearns County) had 23.4 inches, Litchfield (Meeker County) and Granite Falls (Yellow Medicine County) received 22 inches, and Milan (Chippewa County) had 20 inches. A convective snow band set up across this area on the 27th and remained nearly stationary for over 12 hours, resulting in the extreme storm totals.

From 8 am on the 26th to 8 am on the 27th, Willmar received 21 of its 30.4 inches, setting a record for most snowfall in Willmar in a 24 hour period. It should be noted that Willmar did not set an all-time snowfall record, which remains at 30.7 inches in Willmar set in 1985. The Willmar observation originated at the state hospital on the northeastern side of Willmar, where official measurements have been taken since 1918.

Some other snowfall measurements include 14 inches at Canby (Yellow Medicine County), 10.7 inches at Springfield (Brown County), 11 inches at Long Prairie (Todd County), 12.5 inches at New Hope (Hennepin County), 15 inches at Milaca (Mille Lacs County), and 11 inches at Wild River State Park (Chisago County). Visibilities were frequently below 1/4 mile during the storm, and winds remained in the 15 to 30 mph category.

The heavy wet snow downed numerous power lines, and at one point, at least 20,000 customers were without power in the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. Over one thousand traffic accidents were noted across the entire area. Most were minor, but one accident claimed two lives when a car spun out and collided with a semi near Mora (Kanabec County).

WISCONSIN, West

WIZ014>016 **Polk - Barron - Rusk**

26	1300CST	0	0	Winter Storm
27	2000CST			

A strong low pressure system developed in Colorado on the 25th, reached eastern Iowa during the evening of the 26th, then trekked into eastern Wisconsin late on the 27th. It produced a wide swath of heavy snow across much of central Minnesota (see corresponding entry) into West Central Wisconsin. Storm totals of 8 inches or more was common, but much heavier totals greater than 15 inches extended from Frederic in Polk County into northwest Wisconsin (see corresponding entry from NWS Duluth).

At Frederic, 18 inches piled up. Other notable totals include 10.9 inches at Weyerhaeuser (Rusk County), and 10 inches at Rice Lake (Barron County) and St. Croix Falls (Polk County). Visibilities were frequently below 1/4 mile during the storm, but winds remained in the 15 to 25 mph range.